*(1’25’’)*

**UPR 43**

**MONTENEGRO**

*08 May 2023*

**Statement by Czechia**

Czechia warmly welcomes the delegation of Montenegro.

We commend Montenegro’s active and constructive engagement in multilateral human rights fora, including in this Council. We appreciate the adoption of amendments to the Criminal Code which enable to impose stiff penalties in cases of violence against journalists.

We once again wish to recommend to:

* Continue efforts to implement adopted legal measures against **discrimination** and effectively address all reported cases of violence against persons based on their sexual orientation and gender identity;
* Ensure sufficient **funding of the national mechanism** for the prevention of torture and strengthen efforts to ensure that its recommendations are implemented;
* Remove the **statute of limitations on torture** from the Criminal Code, effectively prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of persons deprived of their liberty, and investigate related allegations.

We further recommend to:

* Continue to address **recommendations of the Venice Commission** and the Council of Europe Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) to prevent and fight corruption.

We wish Montenegro a successful UPR.

I thank you.